

## SISAL LOAN STOPPED BY 'TRUST' CHARGE

Sol Wexler Accuses Harvester Co. of Threatening Bank at Inquiry.

### SENATE SEEKS BOOKS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—A bill was made today upon the Continental and Commercial National Bank of Chicago to furnish to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, which is conducting the sisal investigation, a full statement showing the deposits carried in the bank by the International Harvester Company for three years past.

Word came to the committee from Chicago that the bank would refuse the information unless directed to give it by court. The committee had not decided late this afternoon just what course would be pursued to force compliance.

The information was desired in connection with the indication of the fact that the International Harvester Company had withdrawn its deposits from the bank to discipline it for extending financial aid to the sisal growers of Yucatan. The Plymouth Cordage Company is also involved in the investigation. One of the charges is that the Plymouth company combined with the Harvester company to monopolize the output of sisal and prevent independent manufacturers of binding twine from obtaining their raw material.

Counter charges have been made that Sol Wexler, the New Orleans banker, is at the head of a sisal monopoly and has tried to control the prices of binder twine. A telegram was read today before the committee which had been forwarded by the Continental and Commercial Bank of Chicago, which stated that the account carried by the International Harvester Company was not been deposited to any extent within three years and that the company still had a substantial balance on deposit.

Mr. Wexler, who was before the committee today and who had been charged by the Harvester company had sought to prevent the National City Bank of New York and the Chicago bank from participating in the sisal loan of \$10,000 which was to have been made to the Yucatan planters each year to aid them in the marketing of their crop, the loan to be guaranteed by the Pan-American Commission, of which Mr. Wexler is president. The witness said that all the banks of the country were willing to take part in the loan except the National City of New York and the Continental and Commercial National of Chicago.

He testified that prison twice factories in Wisconsin and other States are the chief independent buyers of sisal. He charged that a propaganda to arouse the farmers against the sisal growers was being carried on in trade journals by the International Harvester Company.

Senator Gronna, member of the committee, expressed the opinion that the Harvester company was behind the agitation to prevent the carrying in interstate commerce of the products of convict labor. He said the farmers had been stirred up over the matter and he believed it was an effort by the International Harvester Company to destroy the independent competition afforded by the convict made goods.

### HIGH COURT TO DECIDE.

Bulging Asked on Effect of Recognition on American Claims.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—The Circuit Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit has sent to the Supreme Court a question involving the effect of the recognition of the Carranza Government in Mexico by the United States upon certain American claims.

The case presented is that of the American Metal Company, Ltd., of New York, which brought an action to have the company put in possession of \$17,000 worth of lead bullion, which was being held in bonded warehouses by customs officers in El Paso.

The allegation is made by the claimant company that the bullion of the Penoles Mining Company of Hermosillo, Mexico, and that Gen. Persero, one of Carranza's officers, sold the bullion and sold it to persons who imported it into the United States.

The Federal Court for the Western district of Texas awarded judgment in favor of the American Metal Company, but when an appeal was taken to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals that tribunal presented to the Supreme Court a question as to its jurisdiction.

### TO ATTACK VILLA.

Carranza Leader Awaits More Troops at Sierra Madre.

El Paso, Feb. 19.—Gen. Huerta, who has been marching toward the rendezvous of Gen. Villa in the Sierra Madre, wired Gen. Guaymas today that he was prepared to attack Villa and had asked instructions from Chihuahua. The reply was to delay the attack until troop reinforcements arrived from Chihuahua city. Villa is supposed to be at San Antonio, approximately seventy-five miles northwest of Chihuahua city, and has between 200 and 300 men.

Several Mexicans from Chihuahua, who arrived on the train from Chihuahua, in January, brought out additional facts relative to the killing of Gen. Tomas Ornelas, and how Villa waited from 10 o'clock in the morning to 2:30 in the afternoon of January 31 to kill two Americans, who were thought to have left on a freight train preceding the passenger upon which Ornelas was traveling.

### FAUROT TAKEN AS SUSPECT.

Jacksonville Sleuth Took Him for Confidence Man.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Feb. 19.—Detective Joseph J. Faurot, in charge of the New York Detective Bureau, was taken in custody here last night with Sergeant William Haley, also of the New York force, as confidence men. They were strolling down the street when two detectives stepped up to them.

"This town is too small for you," said one of the local men, flashing his shield. "We made you the minute you stepped off the boat. Better come along quietly now and see the chief."

Faurot suspected that he belonged to the New York Police force, but the detective told him "that was old stuff. Tell it to the judge in the morning."

The two were taken before Chief P. C. Roach, where the local men said that they had been trailing Faurot and Haley all day.

"They look like a couple of slick confidence men," said the chiefs. "They've been hanging round the fashionable hotel and acting suspicious."

It was then that Faurot displayed his credentials.

## TELS CARRANZA PLANS FOR SCHOOLS IN MEXICO

Felix Palavicini, Minister of Education, Describes President's Aims in Sending Teachers Here to Study Modern Methods.

Senor Felix Palavicini, Minister of Public Education in the Carranza Cabinet, is in New York on an educational mission. Senor Palavicini spent some time in Washington, where he had the cooperation of the Department of Education, and also visited Boston and other educational centers. He made arrangements under which Mr. Hamilton, an experienced educator in manual training, will go to Mexico to direct technical education there.

Senor Palavicini has studied the organization of schools in Boston and other American cities, and also those of France, Italy and Germany. He has written numerous books on educational questions and is also an authority on Mexican sociology and school building construction as well as the educational questions of Mexico. He is a member of the Society for the Study of Indian Affairs, and is likewise a member of the Dante Alighieri Society of Italy.

The result of his mission to the United States and the expectation of making effective a constructive educational programme were discussed by Senor Palavicini yesterday. He said: "I am not a political man," he said, "and would rather be excused from giving my political opinions in reference to the persons, laws or actions of the Government of the republic. I can only speak with reference to matters with which I have been entrusted."

### Plans Modern System.

"President Carranza plans to inaugurate a new era of modern educational development in Mexico, which will include no less than three hundred new school buildings for Mexico city and no Government precluded from the constitution of great numbers to perfect their training abroad. At present there are one hundred grammar school teachers in Massachusetts and by the middle of next year there will be one hundred and fifty American schools, one hundred and fifty Mexican teachers will be sent by the Constitution to make a trip through the chief educational centers of the United States."

"What will Mr. Carranza do for the development of the Indians?" "In a general way," he answered, "the Government is already doing, but it is well to explain that the Mexican republic is a Federal republic and education therefore cannot be centralized. As a matter of fact, the Department of Public Education and Fine Arts is original with Mexico, for no other nation with a Federal system has a Department of Public Education. Gen. Carranza has placed the feature of his government to stimulate the States into carrying out of fruitful education work."

### Two-thirds Illiterate.

"The great national problem of Mexico is to civilize the two-thirds of her population who do not participate in the national consciousness and who are under the clumsy and active direction of the other third of the population. The excessive lack of proportion between our limited education and the 10,000,000 of illiterate Mexicans created many obstacles for the real exercise of political rights, consequently there has been no equality of political and civil privileges. The unfair political and civil privileges have subsisted and the sovereignty of the people has been a monstrous force, since outside of 15,000,000 people 10,000,000 are absolutely ignorant and the slaves of a privileged minority."

"An adequate civic education is also necessary; not merely one of text books but an experimental and practical education, devoted to the formation of intelligent and active citizens. Scientific ideas would deliver the Indian from the slavery that his ignorance imposed upon him and the knowledge of his rights and obligations as a citizen would deliver him from the slavery to which other men, his hitherto privileged countrymen, have submitted him."

## PARIS FASHION FUSS FELT ON THIS SIDE

Delays Proposed Alliance Between French Couturiers and Importers.

Doubt as to prevailing conditions in Paris has further delayed the proposed alliance between couturiers in the French city and importers in this country. No definite action was taken by the members of the American Importers Association at the meeting yesterday in the 1412-Carlton, but a call was issued for another meeting next Saturday.

Philippe Ortiz, American representative of the Paris Defense Syndicate, the organization that is believed to be at war with the Chambre Syndicale de la Couture Francaise, of which Paul Poiret is president, suggested that the American importers send him to Paris as their representative. The American importers demurred because of their doubt as to whether a reconciliation had been affected between the two Parisian organizations and the uncertainty as to which of the warring factions they wish to become affiliated with.

It was thought wise to wait until some of the uncertainty had been cleared away by American importers, who were expected to arrive from Paris soon with more definite information of the situation there. Mr. Ortiz will go to Paris in March as an individual, unless the American Importers Association decides to send him as their representative.

Fourteen or fifteen American importers attended yesterday's meeting.

### ASKS MAYOR TO FIND HER PAPA

Freeport, Pa., Girl Writes She Is Lonely, 'As Mama Is in Heaven.'

Mayor Mitchell received a pathetic request yesterday from Marion C. Parker of Freeport, Pa., who wrote a letter asking the Mayor to find her papa if he is in New York city and send him home. The girl wrote as follows:

DEAR SIR: Will you try and find my Papa—he left me over a year ago—and I miss him so much, for I only had Papa to love, as Mama is in heaven. I have loved him so much, but why does he leave me to me? I have been sick so long and all I want is Papa. Please find him if he is in your city and send him home to me.

The letter was turned over to the police.

## SHONTS, ANGRY, DEFENDS THIRD TRACKING WORK

Continued from First Page.

The contract. The more the contractor would have to expend the less would be the percentage of commission. "I suggested 20 per cent."

"I don't know. I think Hedley suggested that figure as having been paid for this kind of work."

"You had put the matter up to the Public Service Commission?"

"Yes, in April."

### Special Meeting Is Recalled.

"And you called a special meeting to take it up?"

"I testified that I had heard that the matter had come to life and I wanted to acquaint the board with what I had done because I was going away to Europe."

"Will you produce the letter which you received from J. P. Morgan after Mr. Lane and Mr. Reed had talked with him about this proposed contract with Stevens?"

"I will, if there is such a letter. My secretary says that there is no such letter."

"What did Mr. Morgan say to you when you called on him after Reed and Lane had seen him?"

"He said they had called on him and asked me what there was to it. I said there was nothing to it outside of the usual arrangement for undertaking a work of this kind. I told him that I had made certain commitments to Stevens."

"If the Public Service Commission had not taken up the matter, would you have undertaken to turn over his contracts to some one else so as to undertake this work?"

"How did you know when Mr. Stevens made that commitment to me that the contract if you did not know what action was to be taken on the contract?"

"If the Public Service Commission had not taken up the matter, would you have undertaken to turn over his contracts to some one else so as to undertake this work?"

"I did not know when Mr. Stevens made that commitment to me that the contract if you did not know what action was to be taken on the contract?"

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nor I was to get anything out of it. I did not tell him that Stevens was not to get anything. Of course, Stevens was to get out of it whatever the commission was."

### Fight on Dual System.

"So," said Mr. Colby, "the only point of divergence between your recollection of what happened and the memorandum of Mr. Young, in which he quotes Mr. Lane, is that the commitments and obligations referred to were to Stevens?"

"Yes, and that they had nothing to do with the dual system contracts, which we fought and which we spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in fighting."

"None of the three directors who opposed you on this proposition continued as directors for more than a few months after that meeting?"

"That is true."

The letter written by Mr. Shonts to the directors of the Lane estate was read in full at this point. Mr. Shonts said in his letter that the Interborough was turning over to the Thompson committee without the service of legal process and that the committee was being formed by the Thompson committee.

"Your permission to turn over to this committee letters was not broad enough to cover any memorandum that Mr. Lane made with Stevens?"

"My intention was to make no reservations. I was not thinking of that. At the time I wrote that letter I knew nothing of any memoranda. I first heard of them from reading the newspaper accounts of this investigation. I meant that to be a general release of any papers relating to your investigation."

"Evidently the executor did not so interpret it."

"So you say?"

Mr. Colby then some discussion between Senator Thompson and the witness as to the Boston trip of the committee. A point that Mr. Shonts referred to was that his letter, as being calculated to add to the newspaper publicity the committee was getting. Mr. Colby introduced the copy of the Stevens contract that was sent to the Public Service Commission with the letter in which Mr. Shonts asked the commission to waive its right to approve the contract which the Interborough proposed to make with Stevens.

"Did you hear from the Public Service Commission that your request was preposterous?"

"No. I have no recollection of any member of the commission going on record to that effect. I spoke to the chairman about it and he told me if I would bring our request out it would be considered."

"You asked the commission to waive a right that they had reserved in the public interest?"

"I asked them to waive the right as to that specific contract."

### History of Gillespie Contract.

Asked about the similarity of the contract proposed with Stevens to that finally made with Gillespie & Co., Mr. Shonts testified that the furnishing of equipment had been eliminated from the final contract and that the contractor was required to furnish his own equipment and pay his administration expenses.

He then entered into a history of the signing of the Gillespie contract, the contract covering the third railroad, the elevated lines and on which Gillespie & Co. received from the Interborough a commission amounting to 15 per cent. of the construction cost. The minutes of a meeting of the Interborough directors on December 15, 1913, showed that Mr. Shonts brought up the matter and that it was resolved that the Gillespie & Co. contract be approved.

"Why did you not ask for general approval of the contract?"

"Mr. Tench testified that he would have taken all the responsibility assumed by the Gillespie company and would have had a profitable contract at less than 5 per cent."

"All I can say is that until I read his testimony I had no idea what each of the contractors was doing. I was a member of the firm—I speak of the three companies, Gillespie & Co., Terry & Tench and Shonts & Triest, as one firm."

"There was no secret about that. When I came back from Europe in September, I said we didn't want to do it. I thought Terry & Tench best for one kind of work, Shonts & Triest for another and Gillespie & Co. for sub-surface work."

Mr. Colby then switched back to the Lane case. He referred to by George W. Young in his testimony, in a memorandum of his own and in letters that passed between Mr. Young and Mr. Lane, that the contract was to be given to the lawyers representing the Lane estate and had asked them to turn over any letters they had which referred to the matter under investigation by the Thompson committee.